

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A circuit, comprising:

one or more first amplifiers operable to amplify an incoming signal to produce an amplified incoming signal, the incoming signal associated with a desired signal; and

a controller operable, in response to the amplified incoming signal exceeding a first threshold and the desired signal not exceeding a second threshold, to at least one of:

allow one or more second amplifiers to amplify the incoming signal; and

increase a current supplied to the one or more first amplifiers.

2. The circuit of Claim 1, further comprising:

a first comparator operable to compare the amplified incoming signal to the first threshold; and

a second comparator operable to compare the desired signal to the second threshold.

3. The circuit of Claim 1, further comprising a filter operable to filter the incoming signal to produce a filtered incoming signal; and

wherein the one or more first amplifiers are operable to amplify the filtered incoming signal to produce the amplified incoming signal.

4. The circuit of Claim 1, further comprising:

a mixer operable to perform a mixing operation involving the amplified incoming signal to produce a mixed incoming signal;

a filter operable to filter the mixed incoming signal to produce a filtered mixed incoming signal; and

a third amplifier operable to amplify the filtered mixed incoming signal to produce the desired signal.

5. The circuit of Claim 4, wherein the first and second filters comprise bandpass filters.

6. The circuit of Claim 1, further comprising a switch coupling a power supply to at least one of the one or more first amplifier and the one or more second amplifiers, the controller operable to open and close the switch.

7. A system, comprising:

an antenna operable to receive an incoming signal;

a receiver comprising:

one or more first amplifiers operable to amplify the incoming signal to produce an amplified incoming signal, the incoming signal associated with a desired signal; and

a controller operable, in response to the amplified incoming signal exceeding a first threshold and the desired signal not exceeding a second threshold, to at least one of:

allow one or more second amplifiers to amplify the incoming signal; and

increase a current supplied to the one or more first amplifiers.

8. The system of Claim 7, further comprising:

a first comparator operable to compare the amplified incoming signal to the first threshold; and

a second comparator operable to compare the desired signal to the second threshold.

9. The system of Claim 7, further comprising:

a first filter operable to filter the incoming signal to produce a filtered incoming signal, wherein the one or more first amplifiers are operable to amplify the filtered incoming signal to produce the amplified incoming signal;

a mixer operable to perform a mixing operation involving the amplified incoming signal to produce a mixed incoming signal;

a second filter operable to filter the mixed incoming signal to produce a filtered mixed incoming signal; and

a third amplifier operable to amplify the filtered mixed incoming signal to produce the desired signal.

10. The system of Claim 7, further comprising a switch coupling a power supply to at least one of the one or more first amplifier and the one or more second amplifiers, the controller operable to open and close the switch.

11. The system of Claim 7, further comprising receive processing circuitry operable to process the desired signal.

12. The system of Claim 7, wherein the receiver comprises a portion of a transceiver.

13. The system of Claim 12, further comprising transmit processing circuitry operable to generate an outgoing signal for transmission by the transceiver.

14. The system of Claim 7, wherein the antenna and receiver comprise at least a portion of one of: a mobile telephone, a computing device, and a personal digital assistant.

15. A method, comprising:

amplifying an incoming signal using one or more first amplifiers to produce an amplified incoming signal, the incoming signal associated with a desired signal;

determining whether the amplified incoming signal exceeds a first threshold and the desired signal does not exceed a second threshold; and

in response to determining that the first threshold is exceeded and the second threshold is not exceeded, at least one of:

allowing one or more second amplifiers to amplify the incoming signal; and

increasing a current supplied to the one or more first amplifiers.

16. The method of Claim 15, further comprising filtering the incoming signal to produce a filtered incoming signal; and wherein amplifying the incoming signal comprises amplifying the filtered incoming signal to produce the amplified incoming signal.

17. The method of Claim 15, further comprising:
mixing the amplified incoming signal and a local oscillator signal to produce a mixed incoming signal;
filtering the mixed incoming signal to produce a filtered mixed incoming signal; and
amplifying the filtered mixed incoming signal to produce the desired signal.

18. The method of Claim 15, wherein allowing the one or more second amplifiers to amplify the incoming signal and increasing the current supplied to the one or more first amplifiers comprises closing a switch, the switch coupling a power supply to at least one of the one or more first amplifiers and the one or more second amplifiers.

19. The method of Claim 18, further comprising:

determining whether at least one of: the amplified incoming signal no longer exceeds the first threshold and the desired signal exceeds the second threshold; and

in response to determining that the amplified incoming signal no longer exceeds the first threshold or the desired signal exceeds the second threshold, at least one of:

no longer allowing the one or more second amplifiers to amplify the incoming signal; and

decreasing the current supplied to the one or more first amplifiers.

20. The method of Claim 19, wherein no longer allowing the one or more second amplifiers to amplify the incoming signal and decreasing the current supplied to the one or more first amplifiers comprises opening the switch.